EPI Update for Friday, June 10, 2011 Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE) lowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- Measles outbreak update
- *E. coli* O104:H4 in Europe
- 30 years of HIV/AIDS
- Ten greatest achievements in public health
- Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Measles outbreak update

lowa

No further cases have occurred (only one confirmed case in lowa to date this year.)

France and Europe

In France, more than 7,500 cases have been reported from January through March, 2011. Cases have been reported from 38 countries across the region, including Spain, Serbia, Macedonia, and Turkey. Over 10,000 cases and four deaths have been reported from countries in the European Economic Area.

Europe, Africa, and Asia

Travelers to these areas have imported measles into the United States.

Information for health care providers: Ensure that travelers to all areas of the world are immune to measles before they travel.

E. coli O104:H4 in Europe

Information for health care providers: As of June 6, 2011, the number of confirmed cases continues to increase, and includes 642 patients with hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS), a type of kidney failure that is associated with *E. coli* or STEC infections, and 15 deaths. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2011/ecoliO104/.

In the U.S., one confirmed and three suspected cases of STEC O104: H4 infections have been identified in persons who recently traveled to Hamburg, Germany, where they were likely exposed. At this time, a specific food has not been confirmed as the source of the infections.

Typically, antibiotics should not be used to treat these types of infection; in fact, antibiotic treatment may increase the risk of HUS. Antidiarrheal agents may also increase risks of complications. If antibiotic treatment is warranted, please note that this particular strain of *E. coli* is showing resistance to a wide range of antibiotics.

30 years of HIV/AIDS

On June 5, 1981, CDC published the first case reports of what is now known as Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); five previously healthy young men were reported with *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia.

Thirty years later, the epidemic continues; however, there are signs that we may be turning a corner on effectively addressing the disease. The nation's first 'National HIV/AIDS Strategy' was released in July of 2010. It calls for shifting of federal resources toward higher incidence areas and toward specific targeted populations, and it defines new tools and metrics to help in the fight. This strategy dovetails nicely with the HIV Prevention Trials Network study released last month that showed treating HIV infection aggressively immediately, rather than waiting for immune system compromise to be evident, can reduce transmission by 96 percent. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/s0602 hivaids30years.html

In Iowa (where HIV diagnoses average about 114 per year, but are increasing at a rate of about 3.5 persons per year), this will also mean a re-examination of our prevention strategies; specifically, directing more efforts toward finding persons unaware of their infections and getting them into treatment quickly - a "test-treat-adhere-retain" approach.

Current HIV testing guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention call for opt-out testing of persons aged 13 to 64 years in all health-care settings, unless the prevalence of undiagnosed HIV infection has been documented to be less than one per 1,000 patients. Encourage all patients to know their HIV status. Early diagnosis and treatment may be lowa's best prevention strategy.

Ten greatest achievements in public health 2001-2010

Achievement #2 - prevention and control of infectious diseases Improvements in public health and prevention efforts resulted in a 30 percent reduction in tuberculosis cases and a 58 percent decline in central line-associated blood stream infections, as well as advances in laboratory techniques and surveillance to identify contaminated foods rapidly.

Also, in 2002 suspected West Nile virus transmission through blood transfusion lead to new blood donor screening protocol and resulted in over 3,000 potentially infected donations being removed from the blood supply. In addition, after more than 60 years of effort, canine rabies was eliminated in the United States in 2004.

Meeting announcements and training opportunitiesNone

Have a healthy, happy (and much cooler) week! Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology lowa Department of Public Health 800-362-2736